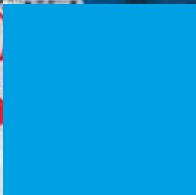
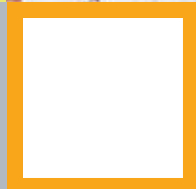
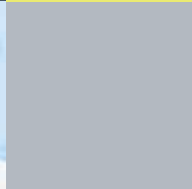
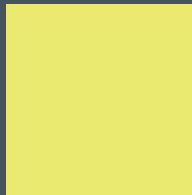
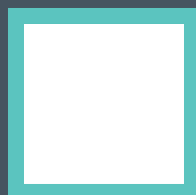
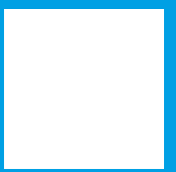


THE GREATER LONG BEACH **WORKFORCE** DEVELOPMENT BOARD

ANNUAL REVIEW







it's

Workforce Development: it's

Working



It's Youth: pg 4

Nearly **975 youth** gained valuable work experience with local businesses.



It's Adults: pg 6

An estimated **10,120 adults** found employment.



It's Training: pg 8

Over **600 people** trained in targeted high-growth industries.



It's Business: pg 10

3,100 recruits placed through Long Beach business recruitments.



It's Community: pg 12

50,000 books awarded to strengthen our family literacy programs.

2006

GREATER LONG BEACH WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD MEMBERS

Sandy King, Chair
Miller Children's Hospital

Michael W. Buchs, Vice Chair
Allegra Print & Imaging

Michelle O. Allen
Long Beach Job Corps Center

Kevin C. Austin
Union Bank of California

Tom Benson
Southwest Regional Council of Carpenters

James Drake
United Aerospace Workers – Local 148

Dane Englund
Home Depot

Joel Fierberg
SnugTop

Victoria R. Fullerton
Partners In Health

Howard Hayes
PEPBOYS

Richard Hondel
Molina Healthcare

Lillian Kirmilidis
State Employment Development Department

Rosa M. Lara
State Department of Rehabilitation

Shaun Lumachi
Chamber Advocacy

Jody Martin
The Boeing Company

Janet McCarthy
Goodwill

Dave Neary
WestLand Construction, Inc.

Steve Peck
U.S. Veterans Initiative, Inc.

Rosi Pedersen
Long Beach School for Adults

Dan Rosenfeld
Long Beach Transit

Matt Saldana
Long Beach Unified School District

John Sangmeister
Gladstone's Restaurant

Tia Schiller
Universal Care

Vivian Shimoyama
Breakthru Unlimited

Darick Simpson
Long Beach Community Action Partnership

Robert Swayze
Business Development Center

John Thomas
Community Development Advisory Commission

Genevieve Walker
Epson America

Dr. Mike Walter
CSULB/College of Business Administration

Kimball Wasick
Cushman & Wakefield

Patrick West
City of Long Beach

Richard Wilke
AppleOne Employment

YOUTH COUNCIL MEMBERS

Darick Simpson, Chair
Long Beach Community Action Partnership

Dr. Kim Armstrong, Vice-Chair
The Boeing Company

Michelle Allen
Long Beach Job Corps Center

Tom Benson
Southwest Regional Council of Carpenters

Dr. Henry O'Lawrence
CSU Long Beach

James Drake
United Aerospace Workers – Local 148

Reverend Larry Ginn
Rainbow Community Resource Center

Farley Herzek
Long Beach City College

Chan Hopson
Khmer Parent Association

Sam Banuelos
Los Angeles County Probation Department

Matt Saldana
Long Beach Unified School District

Jeanetta McAlpin
Healthcare Consultant

Nancy Risch
Parent

Darnisa Tyler
Housing Authority of the City of Long Beach

Thuy Tran
Laserfiche, Inc.

Coleen Maldonado
Greater Long Beach Regional Cal-SOAP Consortium

John Sangmeister
Gladstone's Restaurant

Wayne Munchel
MHA/The Village

Mary Rivera
State Employment Development Department

Candace Meehan
Jordan High School / Young Adult

Vanessa Lester
Los Angeles County Department
of Children & Family Services

Mario Gonzalez
Long Beach Health Department / Young Adult

Kimberly Pernel
Long Beach Police Department

LONG BEACH CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Bob Foster
Mayor

Bonnie Lowenthal
Vice-Mayor and 1st District

Suja Lowenthal
2nd District

Gary DeLong
3rd District

Patrick O'Donnell
4th District

Gerrie Schipske
5th District

Tonia Reyes-Uranga
7th District

Rae Gabelich
8th District

Val Lerch
9th District

CITY MANAGEMENT

Gerald R. Miller
City Manager

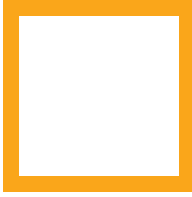
Christine F. Shippey
Assistant City Manager

Reginald I. Harrison
Deputy City Manager

Suzanne R. Mason
Deputy City Manager

Patrick H. West
Director of Community Development

Bryan Rogers
Board Executive Director



Sandy King

Bryan Rogers

Dear Friends, Partners and Colleagues:

Diverse in culture, industry and resources, Long Beach and Signal Hill are communities with much to offer. The Workforce Development Board is dedicated to developing and increasing access to these vital resources that allow our residents, our businesses and our communities to thrive.

The year 2006 marked outstanding progress toward our shared vision of a Long Beach working together for success. This past year, the Board collaborated with education, industry, labor and community leaders to launch a number of innovative new initiatives, and extend the success of initiatives already in place.

Over the year, we provided a myriad of services to thousands of Long Beach and Signal Hill residents, connecting them to better employment opportunities. We strengthened our partnerships with local businesses large and small, building strategies for retention and expansion. We reached out to the community in a tremendous grassroots effort, speaking to them where they live, learn, work and pray.

Across these many diverse initiatives, we remained focused on training our residents to meet the workforce demands of our industries and businesses. These efforts have resulted in a number of cutting-edge training programs that continue to achieve exciting results.

In 2006, we secured funding to support healthcare worker training initiatives that are adding hundreds of desperately needed nurses to the career pipeline. We prepared residents to enter high-wage construction trades, while encouraging construction companies to hire local talent to meet their workforce demands. We trained transportation and logistics workers needed to feed the Port — Long Beach's most vital economic engine. We introduced young men and women to high-growth employment opportunities at Los Angeles-area refineries. This year, we put more people to work than ever before.

Because when people succeed, businesses succeed. And so does our community. The year 2006 provided tangible proof of this symbiotic relationship. In the following pages, we share with you the many ways in which **It's Working**.

The Workforce Development Board is honored to have played a role in the continued economic growth of Long Beach. We also gratefully acknowledge the many partners whose vision, creativity and dedication have made this progress possible.

We thank you for working with us to keep Long Beach growing strong. You, too, are among our community's most vital resources.

Sincerely,

Sandy King, Chair

The Greater Long Beach Workforce Development Board

Bryan Rogers, Executive Director

The Greater Long Beach Workforce Development Board



Youth



PROGRESS BEGINS WITH PEOPLE.

After all, our people are our community's greatest asset. Since day one, the Workforce Development Board has remained committed to the individual success of people throughout our community. In 2006, we renewed our commitment, redoubling efforts to provide increased career training and educational opportunities for Long Beach residents of all ages and backgrounds, while preparing a competitive workforce.

It's Youth

YOUTH OPPORTUNITY CENTER

GET EDUCATED, GET EXPERIENCED, GET EMPLOYED.

A vital part of our services, the Youth Opportunity Center (YOC) increased its efforts to reach younger residents. In 2006, the YOC found its voice. Created in collaboration with participating youth, the YOC launched its powerful, youth-oriented advertising campaign “Get Educated, Get Experienced, Get Employed.”

Through billboards, bus shelters, posters and postcards, this simple yet powerful message — featuring the faces of young men and women who have received YOC services — resonated with our younger at-risk population. As a result of this campaign and the YOC's tireless efforts, we were able to help an impressive number of youth stay in school and graduate, pursue secondary education and vocational training and find employment. In 2007, we expect to reach even more.

Youth



Long Beach is proud to have been honored in 2006 as one of the **100 Best Communities** for Young People for the 2nd consecutive year.



In **2006**, the **Inspired Internship Program** placed over **440** youth interns at **142** local businesses.

Participating **businesses** saved approximately **\$450,000** in salary and benefits costs.

In 2006, the Youth Opportunity Center:

- *Provided work-readiness training to over 2,000 high school youth.*
- *Assisted 975 youth in gaining valuable work experience with local businesses.*
- *Worked with our seven community-based service providers to serve 200 youth through intensive education and personal development strategies.*

Helped 68 percent of our youth get trained, employed or enrolled in higher education just 9 months after receiving services.

Secured jobs for 68 percent of our younger youth clients.

Placed 74 percent of our older youth clients in jobs.

- *Enlisted the participation of over 750 youth and 75 businesses and organizations in our Summer Opportunities Job Fair.*
- *Encouraged the participation of 175 youth in our Annual Job Shadow Day.*

INSPIRED INTERNSHIP PROGRAM
INSPIRING YOUTH.

In 2006, we continued to see tangible results for our Inspired Internship Program. Developed in partnership with the Industry Education Council of Long Beach, Long Beach Unified School District's Regional Occupational Program and local businesses, this unique year-round program introduces residents ages 16-24 to new career opportunities while providing businesses access to a cost-effective resource to meet their staffing needs.

Working closely with participating businesses representing a wide range of industries, the program matches and places youth in positions that allow them to explore their areas of interest. Interns undergo a work readiness training program, weekly job coaching classes and one-on-one mentoring — all of which prepares them to compete more effectively in the workplace.

Businesses receive a valuable return on their participation as well. In 2006, participating businesses saved approximately \$450,000 in salary and benefits costs while helping prepare the next generation of trained, skilled employees.





Adults



It's Adults

CAREER TRANSITION CENTER
PROVIDING OPPORTUNITIES.
PREPARING FOR SUCCESS.

Through our Career Transition Center, we assisted more than 22,250 residents with information, referrals and employment services — more than ever before. This year, the Center exceeded expected outcomes for employment, wage earnings, retention and skill attainment. The real success story of 2006, however, belongs to the thousands of residents we served.

Through the Center's Passport to Employment, residents in 2006 had easier access to more comprehensive services and resources designed to prepare them for employment and for success. This year, residents attended the Center's many workshops, computer labs, job fairs and counseling sessions to explore new career paths, hone job-searching techniques, develop resume-writing and interviewing skills and ready themselves for the workplace. They used the Center's resources to find job referrals, search Internet job listings, post online resumes, fax applications and email follow-ups.

At every opportunity, the Center provided the support residents needed to remove barriers and maximize their success. We connected them to resources for training, tutoring, GED preparation and counseling. When needed, we assisted them with transportation, child care and economic aid. Most of all, we believed in them and their ability to reach their goals.



DARCY DROHAN

**Empowering individuals
to change their lives.**

Just a few years ago, Darcy Drohan, a single mother of three, found herself laid off from her job in customer service management, and on the streets. After several unsuccessful attempts to locate work, Darcy came to the Career Transition Center. There, case manager Vivian Hochschild helped Darcy find, apply for and prepare to interview with the new Long Beach location of FAMIMA, an upscale convenience store.

Four days later, Darcy had a new job and a new advocate in Vivian. Vivian helped Darcy secure transportation and financial assistance until she was established at her new job. Today, Darcy is thriving at FAMIMA and was recently promoted to the store's team leader — with a pay raise. Her co-workers just helped her move into a new apartment.

Darcy's story is just one example of the Board's commitment to support our workforce — one individual at a time. Her success fuels the success of our entire community. In the coming years, we plan to reach many more individuals who, like Darcy, deserve the opportunity to thrive.

***"This job has given me a second chance.
Vivian was there for me. She was great."***

— Darcy Drohan
Team Leader, FAMIMA Long Beach

***"Darcy is wonderful to work with, and has a positive,
upbeat attitude. She loves what she does and is
amazing with customers. She's a very fast learner."***

— Rowdy LaMasters
Store Manager, FAMIMA Long Beach

Darcy Drohan



The **Center** continues to serve many adult residents overcoming significant barriers to employment. This year, our staff and partners provided focused assistance for **older workers, dislocated workers, disabled residents, veterans, the long-term unemployed and those entering the job market for the first time.**

In 2006, the Career Transition Center:

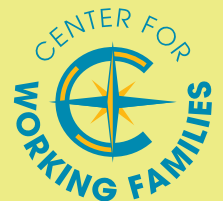
- Provided employment services to nearly 15,575 registered individuals, resulting in an estimated 10,120 finding employment.
(Final validations pending release of data from State.)
- Assisted over 22,250 residents with information, referrals and employment services.
- Increased job retention for adult and laid-off workers to over 80 percent.
- Helped 93 percent of our laid-off clients replace their pre-dislocation wages.

In 2006, the **Career Transition Center** consistently exceeded expected performance outcomes for employment, wage earnings, retention and skill attainment.



Center for Working Families opens doors.

One of our most exciting accomplishments in 2006 was the launch of the Center for Working Families. Through this new center, residents now have convenient access to an array of services and opportunities for our community's working poor, including entry into the Construction Apprenticeship Program, employment resources, job training and family support programs.

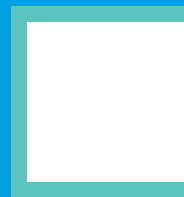
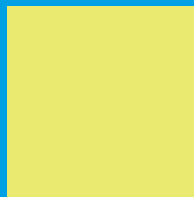


Through a unique partnership with Union Bank and Operation Hope, the new center is offering financial literacy assistance as well as workshops designed to help families save and manage money. Our staff and partners are also helping families take advantage of Federal Earned Income Tax Credits for much needed tax relief. We look forward to reaching and serving more residents through this and other community resources.



- Over 600 residents were trained in targeted high-growth industries.
- \$1,700,000 in funding was secured by the Board and our education partners to train and place much needed healthcare professionals.
- 292 nurses were added to the healthcare pipeline.
- 240 high school students were exposed to healthcare career opportunities through pilot programs.
- 30 residents were trained for careers in MRI and radiology technology.
- Graduation rates of healthcare students soared to 90 percent.
- A Nursing Board exam pass rate of nearly 99 percent was achieved.
- More than 30 residents were trained in computer-related industries.

- \$1,435,000 in funding was secured to train and place residents in construction trades.
- 168 residents acquired skills in construction training programs.
- 88 residents were placed in construction apprenticeship programs.
- 106 residents were placed in high-growth construction jobs.
- 46 truck drivers and heavy equipment operators were trained and placed with local and regional trucking firms – a 95 percent completion rate.
- \$600,000 in grants was secured in partnership with Long Beach City College to begin training residents in transportation logistics and goods movement.
- 15 local area youth and adults began training for \$23-an-hour entry-level jobs at Los Angeles-area refineries.
- 297 disabled residents received training and placement assistance.



SUSAN CROCKETT AND DR. DAISY HINES

Creative collaborations.

Increasing the enrollment, capacity and success rates for our '06 healthcare training program required a collaborative effort of the most creative kind. Two of the Board's key healthcare collaborators are Susan Crockett, Director of Clinical Workforce Development at Long Beach Memorial Medical Center, and Dr. Daisy Hines, Healthcare Grant Coordinator at Long Beach City College.

Through Susan's and Daisy's creative problem solving, the program was able to secure the additional teaching resources needed to train more students. Many of these resources came from Memorial staff who were experienced in the field but new to the classroom. Through the implementation of innovative learning techniques, the program is working — as evidenced by the near 99 percent pass rate on students' exams. Students are now learning firsthand from the professionals with whom they'll be working.

Dr. Daisy Hines



Susan Crockett

Memorial staff is playing an active role in addressing the challenges of their own labor shortage. Instructors personally invested in the students' success build mentoring relationships that support their students as they transition into the workforce. Students in return share a deep commitment to contributing to Memorial's quality of care. Everyone wins.

"It's a testament to the power of our three-way partnership. Through experience, we've learned to work well as a team to do what's best for the students. It's an exciting collaboration."

— Susan Crockett
Director of Clinical Workforce Development

"We've been with these students from the start. It's been a privilege to meet them and see how success has changed their lives."

— Dr. Daisy Hines
Healthcare Grant Coordinator



It's Training

TARGETED INDUSTRY INITIATIVES

TRAINING TOMORROW'S COMPETITIVE WORKFORCE. TODAY.

Long Beach is an international hub of business, where multiple industries converge to drive not only our local economy, but our nation's economy. The demand for skilled labor to support these industries is growing. So too is the opportunity.

Pinpointing high-growth areas in economically vital industry sectors — healthcare, construction, ports and refineries — the Workforce Development Board is proactively preparing local residents to meet the demand for skilled labor. Collaborating closely and creatively with Long Beach industry leaders, labor organizations, education and training partners, we have launched a number of innovative training programs in targeted industries. In 2006, we saw measurable results from these initiatives.

MEDICAL INDUSTRY INITIATIVE

TRAINING THE PROFESSIONALS WHO CARE FOR OUR COMMUNITY.

Through 2012, a projected 3,500-plus new healthcare professionals will be needed annually to meet the healthcare demands of area citizens. Joining forces and resources with Long Beach City College, Long Beach Memorial Medical Center, and Miller Children's Hospital, the Board has co-developed and supported a number of key initiatives to meet this drastic shortage, while connecting residents to excellent career opportunities.

This year, our mission was two-fold: increase the number of students entering and completing healthcare training programs, while increasing the program's capacity to handle more students, more efficiently. 2006 found us on target for both goals.

GREATER LONG BEACH HEALTH COLLABORATIVE PROJECT

2006 saw the launch of the area's first MRI training program, and extended the radiology technician training program, for local residents. The new program exceeded targeted '06 enrollment goals, training 30 students who will soon be prepared to join the workforce.

NURSING CAPACITY ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM

Employing creative concepts to increase the capacity of the Associate Degree Nursing Program by 70 slots annually, this program succeeded in securing more healthcare experts to train more students. Collectively, we added 292 new nurses to the career pipeline in 2006.

FOSTERING STUDENT SUCCESS

One of our main priorities in 2006 was to maximize student success. Through early intervention, ongoing mentoring and guidance through the entire training process, this program succeeded in drastically reducing student attrition rates to nearly 10 percent in '06 — down significantly from previous years.

HIPP: HEALTH INDUSTRY PIPELINE PROJECT

Launched in 2006, this exciting pilot program employs interactive presentations to expose Long Beach high school students to the full range of healthcare career opportunities beyond doctor and nurse. We plan to reach 2,000 students in the next year.

CONSTRUCTION JOBS INITIATIVE**BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS, BUILDING FUTURES.**

In Los Angeles County, construction employment is expected to grow more than 17 percent over the next several years. With tremendous local demand for skilled construction workers, construction trades offer livable, high-growth wages and excellent career paths.

The Workforce Development Board spent 2006 building stronger relationships with construction leaders, encouraging them to look to Long Beach residents to meet their labor demands. This includes our unique partnerships with Women in Non-Traditional Employment Roles (WINTER), who is helping us actively reach and encourage more women to explore construction careers.

Collaborating with our partners, we continued our successful Construction Apprenticeship Program (CAP), a customized training program at Long Beach City College that prepares residents for a range of rewarding careers in construction. Available through our Center for Working Families, CAP provides residents with no construction experience access to pre-apprenticeship training and a head start in the construction apprenticeship program.

Participants spend 10 weeks gaining valuable hands-on training and interaction with members of union apprenticeship programs as well as private employers. Residents who successfully complete the pre-apprenticeship training are often better prepared to enter apprenticeship programs, in some cases earning higher pay and progressing up the career ladder more quickly.

The program has met with success. In 2006, 194 residents were placed in construction employment or entered a registered apprenticeship program.

PORTS/GOODS MOVEMENT/TRANSPORTATION INITIATIVE**MOVING FORWARD.**

An emerging initiative for 2006, this program represents an exciting new partnership with Long Beach City College and the Long Beach Unified School District to direct resources toward growth at the Ports of Long Beach and Los Angeles. This year, the Board focused initial efforts on our high-growth and high-demand area of the port industry: truck transportation and warehousing — engines that feed the port. Identifying a great need for logistics and transportation professionals, we targeted resources toward a successful truck-driving training effort. In its first year, the program trained and placed 46 adults with local and regional trucking firms.

Based on this initial success, we are aggressively seeking and securing funding for expanded training and placement efforts. One of our greatest victories in 2006, Long Beach City College succeeded in securing a \$587,000 grant to support our joint Port Opportunities Program, developed to increase awareness of career opportunities in logistics and goods movement. As part of this awareness-building effort, we will conduct 250 community presentations and create career spotlight videos. As a result of increased awareness, we expect to train 90 residents to begin addressing the shortage of professionals in this field.

Training

ENERGY PATHWAY REFINING OPPORTUNITIES.

This year, the Board was pleased to participate in the Energy Pathways Program, spearheaded by the South Bay Center for Counseling in collaboration with industry leaders ConocoPhillips, ExxonMobile, BP-Arco and Valero. Featured in *Business-Week* magazine, the program trains disadvantaged adults and youth to operate complex equipment at Los Angeles-area refineries — filling a labor void left by retiring petrochemical workers. The program is off to a strong start, with 15 Long Beach young adults preparing for \$23-an-hour entry-level refinery jobs. We expect enrollment to increase exponentially in the next year, with the regional partnership well on target to train 90 process technicians.



JASON STILES, RN

Success at work.

When Jason Stiles enrolled in the Healthcare Collaborative Project, he had reservations about going back to school after a long absence. A technician at Long Beach Memorial Medical Center, Jason was committed to upgrading his career and reaching his lifelong goal of becoming a registered nurse like his mother.

His Long Beach City College instructors, Memorial co-workers and the staff at the Workforce Development Board made sure Jason had the support he needed to balance his personal, professional and educational responsibilities. Through the grant, Jason secured funding that paid for his tuition and books and provided a stipend while he worked and attended classes. Today, Jason is an RN on the Adult Respiratory Unit at Memorial. His wife, Stephanie and his parents are very proud of his accomplishments. So are we.

"I knew that at any moment if I faltered or started to have trouble, they were there to help. The nursing program was excellent. It taught me to think differently and I matured as a person because of it."

— Jason Stiles
Registered Nurse

Jason Stiles





Business



It's Business

BUSINESS EXPANSION AND RETENTION NETWORK

WHEN BUSINESS SUCCEEDS, PEOPLE SUCCEED.

The economic health of our people and our community depends largely on the economic health of the businesses that employ them. Studies show that 60 to 80 percent of job growth within a community comes from business expansion. In Long Beach alone, small businesses (under 100 employees) provide nearly 45,000 jobs. Expanding these businesses expands opportunities to more residents. For this compelling reason, the Workforce Development Board in collaboration with an array of partners launched the Long Beach Business Expansion and Retention Network in 2006.

Business expansion results in 60 to 80 percent job growth within a community.

A collaboration made possible by a grant from the State of California Employment Development Department, the Business Expansion and Retention Network is a dynamic partnership between city, educational and business stakeholders. In 2006, the Network launched a number of key initiatives designed to positively impact thousands of businesses as well as the people they employ.

BUSINESS RETENTION SURVEY

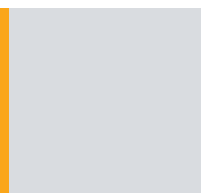
Our first order of business: to listen. The Network developed and conducted the Business Retention Survey to gain valuable insight into the needs of local small businesses at possible risk of closure or downsizing.

2006 BUSINESS RETENTION FORUM

The Business Retention Forum, in an engaging roundtable event, provided businesses a unique venue for identifying opportunities, building collaborations, assessing their needs and challenges and accessing solutions. Featured speakers shared their expertise in the areas of technology, technical assistance, human resources and marketing.

OUTREACH EFFORTS

The Network continues to increase outreach efforts that make it easier for businesses to access business resources. This includes this year's development of the Long Beach Business Retention Resource Guide, a compilation of valuable business information in one convenient place.



Business

In 2006, the **Workforce Development Board** secured **\$473,480** in targeted funding for business services and assistance.

BUSINESSES SERVED.

In 2006, our staff and partners led mass recruiting efforts for a wide range of Long Beach and Signal Hill businesses. Among them:

Auto Club of Southern California – 60 positions filled
Connect Television Inc – 147 positions filled
FedEx – 20 positions filled
Home Depot – 40 positions filled
Union Pacific – 30 positions filled
Verizon – 40 positions filled
Total positions filled through 2006 recruitments: 3,100

“Gina and Cynthia at the Workforce Development Board were very helpful with directing candidates and facilitating the interview process. Gina personally went out to schools to place posters for the position. I will definitely be using them again.”

– Yoshiko Okuno
General Manager, FAMIMA

“I was very pleased with my experience using the Workforce Development Board’s recruitment services. They were very responsive and coordinated the interviews and schedules. It made my job a lot easier. The people they’ve found for us have been a good fit.”

– Mary Archuleta
HR & Administrative Operations Manager, CDR Financial

Our 2006 Job Fairs were attended by over 180 firms and 2,150 youth and adult job seekers.

BUSINESS SOLUTIONS

**COMPLETE BUSINESS SOLUTIONS,
ONE SOURCE.**

In 2006, increasing numbers of businesses, large and small, turned to the Workforce Development Board for an array of business services and solutions. Our dedicated, experienced staff and our State counterparts continue to support the success of businesses in Long Beach and Signal Hill, responding to their challenges, needs and goals with rapid response, customized solutions and cost-effective resources.

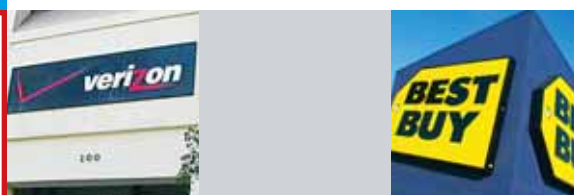
RECRUITMENT SERVICES

This year, we helped hundreds of local businesses meet their human capital needs with no-cost personnel solutions. From prescreening and soft-skill assessment, to web-based resume and skill-matching, to marketing and coordinating job fairs, our wide range of services work to maximize the return of businesses’ most valuable asset: people.

ADDITIONAL BUSINESS SERVICES AVAILABLE THROUGH THE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD:

- Customized Training Programs
- Labor Market Information
- Financial Incentives and Referrals
- Business Transition and Rapid Response
- Business Referrals

**In Long Beach, small businesses
(under 100 employees)
provide nearly 45,000 jobs.**



it's Community



It's Community

OPPORTUNITY BUILDS COMMUNITY.

As one of the nation's most diverse communities, Long Beach offers a wealth of resources and opportunities. The Greater Long Beach Workforce Development Board is working hard to connect our community with these resources and opportunities — one resident and one business at a time. We're preparing individuals to become active contributors to the continued success of Long Beach through training programs, employment avenues and work-readiness services. We're supporting the businesses that hire residents, and we're providing the competitive workforce to help our business community grow. So that our entire community may grow.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH REACHING OUT. BRINGING IN.

In 2006, we made the important realization that we cannot sit back and wait for people to come to us. Instead, we must take our message to the people. This year, the Workforce Development Board increased its grassroots and outreach efforts, building greater community awareness of our services, resources and programs. Conducting nearly 150 presentations and roadshows before schools, faith-based and other organizations, we effectively reached more community members than ever. Our efforts have directly resulted in a measurable increase of residents and businesses benefiting from our services and resources.



STARR HART

Turning challenge into opportunity.

With her unwaveringly positive attitude, Starr Hart is a shining example of determination. The Youth Opportunity Center staff witnessed this determination firsthand when Starr attended our Disability Mentoring Day — one of the many programs we offer on disability rights and employment opportunities.

Working closely with YOC's Sylvia Womack, Starr accessed the Center's resources to conduct job searches, craft her resume and find a position at a childcare facility earning \$10-an-hour. Starr, a college student, is now gaining valuable real-world experience to help her reach her dream of becoming a teacher.

"From the first moment I met Starr she seemed very confident, determined and well prepared. She was a young lady on a mission to accomplish her career goal of becoming a teacher. She left here knowing that we could help her find a job."

— Sylvia Womack
YOC Program Specialist

Starr Hart



2005-06 findings indicate that preschool children who participated in the **Family Literacy Program** for at least 6 months improved their English language scores by an average of **10 points** – double the federal expectation.

LONG BEACH FAMILY LITERACY PROGRAM TURNING A NEW PAGE.

The Long Beach Family Literacy Program, one of our most powerful community partnerships, made great strides in 2006 to help break the vicious cycle of illiteracy and poverty in our community. Developed with the Long Beach Unified School District and Head Start, the program has been instrumental in encouraging stronger literacy skills among our community's youngest members as well as their parents.

This year, the program worked with 45 children ranging in age from 3 to 5, and assisted over 50 families. Findings indicate that participating elementary students are now performing at or higher than the state average in both English and math. Through a range of services, including early childhood education, parent and adult education and parent/child interactivity, we've also seen results in improving the literacy skills of parents, equipping them with the tools they need to support their children's success.

Long Beach's **Family Literacy**
Program ranked among
the top tier of
141 programs throughout
the State in 2006.



50,000 books for children in need.

This year, the Long Beach Family Literacy Program was pleased to participate in the "Jet Back to School with Blue," a promotion jointly developed by Nickelodeon, JetBlue Airways and First Book, an international non-profit organization that provides access to books for children from low-income families. In a tremendous grassroots effort, we got the word out which prompted an impressive number of Long Beach residents to go online and voice their support for our community.

Out of eight participating JetBlue Airways communities, Long Beach received the most online votes and was awarded 50,000 books for children in need. The award was presented at a special event featuring celebrity guest "Joe" from Nickelodeon's popular Blue's Clues program for children.

Community

it's

Working Today. And Tomorrow.

It's Working Today. And Tomorrow.

As we reflect on the measurable progress made in 2006, we also realize that our work is far from over. Building on the results of our 2006 initiatives and collaborations, we continue to strive toward even higher goals and further-reaching outcomes over the coming year and beyond.

Our vision for 2007 includes the ongoing support and expansion of our most successful strategies, as well as the launch of new programs developed through innovative partnerships. Following is a glimpse of our key initiatives for 2007. We expect to see outstanding results from these and other endeavors that are generating a positive ripple effect across our entire community.

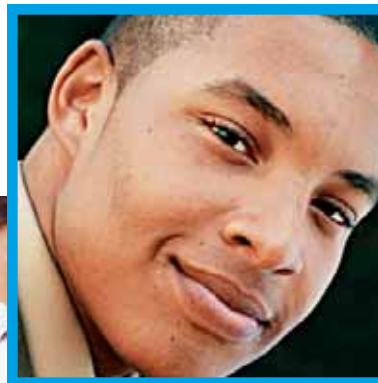
YOUTH EMPLOYMENT

In 2007, the Youth Opportunity Center will continue to expand efforts to connect our community's youth and businesses. In collaboration with local business and community leaders, we are preparing to launch bold strategies encouraging area businesses to hire youth to meet their staffing needs. 2007 also marks the launch of the new Youth Opportunity Center, re-designed with the assistance of youth enrolled in local high school interior design programs.

WORK READINESS CREDENTIAL

In 2007, the Board will develop and implement a Work Readiness Credential for residents who access our three Centers' services for interview skills, resume writing, job applications and overall work readiness. Residents will be able to use their Credentials on resumes and job applications as evidence of their work preparedness.

It's Working Today





CAREER AND EDUCATION EXPLORATION

Based on our successful HIPPP model, we will increase our efforts to educate our community's youth in and out of high school about the myriad of rewarding career paths and resources in logistics and goods transportation available to them right here in Long Beach.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

2007 will bring a continued commitment to working closely with community; faith- and education-based organizations to connect our residents and young persons with the many opportunities available. We look forward to strengthening our grassroots relationships, all the while facilitating partnerships that expand services, improve on strategies to prepare residents and continue to engage the employer community in addressing workforce shortages.

TARGETED INDUSTRY INITIATIVES

While continuing to support the success of targeted industry programs currently in place, we are fostering new collaborations with businesses and educational partners in other dynamic industry sectors. In 2007, we will explore and introduce expanded career training and placement efforts for in-home healthcare, utilities, Brownfields remediation, logistics, law enforcement and other high-growth, high-opportunity areas.

BUSINESS RESOURCES

Continuing our Business Retention and Expansion Network strategy, the Workforce Development Board will see the opening of Long Beach City College's Small Business Development Center at our Career Transition Center. This dedicated resource will provide local businesses centralized access to a wealth of services, solutions, strategies and referrals designed to support their economic growth and vitality.



And Tomorrow



Working Together

A COMMUNITY OF COLLABORATORS.

The economic growth of our community cannot be achieved by one individual or one group alone. Ours is a community of collaborators working together to bring opportunity to our residents and businesses.

The Greater Long Beach Workforce Development Board acknowledges the instrumental roles our partners play in preparing our workforce to compete and contribute to the region's economic vitality.

The success of the programs and initiatives covered here — as well as those still to come — is fueled by our strategic collaborations with a myriad of key partners, among them education leaders, One-Stop Career Center Providers, youth services providers, union apprenticeship programs, local elected officials, the City Management team and businesses. These partners provide the creative problem-solving, expertise, resources and above all dedication to put progress in motion. Combining our varied strengths, these collaborations work to ensure the best and most targeted use of resources needed to support our community. We could not do it without them.

You, too, are a vital part of the working solution to Long Beach's and Signal Hill's workforce and economic development. We invite you to join us and our partners, as together we empower our workforce, businesses and community to thrive in 2007, and beyond.

Let's get to work.

The Greater Long Beach Workforce Development Board
is focused on pursuing innovative ways to assist our local businesses in obtaining
the workforce they need to stay competitive in the twenty-first century.

For more information about this report, please contact Bryan Rogers, Workforce Development Manager, Community Development Department,
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